

CLAIMS:

1. A wire connector for joining two or more incoming wires having conductors, comprising:

a housing having walls defining a cavity therein with openings in the walls,

said openings permitting the incoming wires to extend into the cavity;

an electrically conductive clip disposed in the cavity and held fixed in the housing by the walls, the clip having at least first and second retaining fingers each of which engages an individual conductor to hold the conductor fixed in the housing; and

a conductive extension in electrical engagement with the clip and extending through a housing wall to the exterior of the housing.

2. The wire connector of claim 1 wherein the conductive clip has a plurality of tines forming an insulation displacement type connector.

3. The wire connector of claim 2 having a two-part housing including a base and a cap.

4. The wire connector of claim 1 wherein the conductive clip has a plurality of fingers forming a push-in type connector.

5. The wire connector of claim 1 wherein the extension is a blade-type terminal.

6. The wire connector of claim 1 wherein the extension is a pigtail.

5 7. A method of connecting two or more wires having conductors to a common terminus, comprising the steps of providing a push-in wire connector having a conductive clip inside an insulative housing, providing a conductive extension electrically connected to the clip and extending to the exterior of the housing, pushing the stripped ends of the conductors of the first and second wires into the housing and into engagement with the clip, and attaching the extension to said terminus.

10 8. A method of connecting two or more wires having conductors to a common terminus, comprising the steps of providing an insulation displacement connector having a conductive clip inside an insulative housing, providing a conductive extension electrically connected to the clip and extending to the exterior of the housing, placing first and second wires adjacent the clip, closing the housing to force the wires' conductors into engagement with the clip, and attaching the extension to said terminus.

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